

October 9, 2020

St. Louis County COVID-19 Update

St. Louis County Department of Public Health Awarded Funding

The Department of Public Health has received notice of an award from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to expand the capacity of the DPH environmental laboratory to perform COVID-19 tests. The awarded amount of \$864,638 is focused on equipment and supplies for PCR testing of COVID-19 samples. DPH has a high-complexity laboratory that currently performs a wide variety of environmental and clinical tests, and this additional capacity is a significant investment in increased access and decreased waiting times.

DPH currently has commercial contracts for COVID-19 testing. This investment will reduce long-term contracting costs and is projected to be able to perform approximately 1,500 samples per day and return results within 24 hours and function 7 days a week. This capacity will be operational by Dec. 1, 2020.

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St. Louis County Flu Report

To date, DPH has administered over 1,100 flu vaccines within our community and appointments are still available to be made online [here](#). The first seasonal influenza report for St. Louis County has been released and is available online here.

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